

1. (Amended) A context-sensitive data announcing device comprising  
an ad hoc network interface configured to receive one or more announcements identifying  
one or more members of an ad hoc network;  
a database comprising information regarding one or more of the members;  
a processor configured to extract the information regarding the one or more members  
from the database using the identifying announcement; and  
a user output device for outputting the information regarding the one or more members.

2. (Unchanged) The device of claim 1 further comprising a queue for storing the  
information regarding the one or more members.

3. (Amended) The device of claim 2 wherein the queue couples the information regarding  
the one or more members to the user output device in the order the announcements were  
received.

4. (Amended) The device of claim 2 wherein  
the information regarding an urgent member comprises an urgent designation; and  
the queue is configured to couple the information regarding the urgent member to the user  
output device before the information regarding at least some of the one or more members.

5. (Unchanged) The device of claim 1 wherein the processor is configured to extract the  
information regarding the one or more members that are proximate to the device.

6. (Unchanged) The device of claim 5 wherein the processor is configured to determine the  
proximity of the one or more members using a signal strength provided by the network interface.

7. (Unchanged) The device of claim 5 wherein the processor is configured to determine the proximity of a member using the number of hops among members the announcement associated with the member made before being received by the ad hoc network interface.

8. (Unchanged) The device of claim 1 wherein the ad hoc network interface uses one of radio frequency communications, optical communications, or wired communications.

9. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the user output device comprises one of a vibrating mechanism, an audio output, or a visual output.

10. (Amended) A method for an announcing member of an ad hoc network to announce the presence of one or more members of the ad hoc network, the method comprising  
receiving an identifying announcement from one or more members of the ad hoc network;  
accessing a database using the one or more identifying announcements to retrieve  
information regarding each of the one or more members of the ad hoc network from which an  
announcement was received; and  
outputting the information to a user output device.

11. (Unchanged) The method of claim 10 further comprising queuing the identifying announcements.

12. (Unchanged) The method of claim 11 wherein queuing comprises queuing the identifying announcements in the order received.

13. (Unchanged) The method of claim 11 wherein queuing comprises raising an urgent identifying announcement to a top of the queue.
14. (Unchanged) The method of claim 10 further comprising  
determining the proximity to the announcing member of each of the members of the ad hoc network from which the announcing member received an announcement; and  
outputting comprises outputting only the identifying data for members of the ad hoc network that are proximate to the announcing member.
15. (Unchanged) The method of claim 14 wherein  
the announcements hop among members of the ad hoc network in order to reach the announcing member and wherein  
determining the proximity comprises counting the hops an announcement made before reaching the announcing member.
16. (Unchanged) The method of claim 14 further comprising  
measuring the signal strength of each received identifying announcement; and wherein  
determining the proximity comprises comparing the signal strength of each received identifying announcement to a threshold.
17. (Unchanged) The method of claim 10 further comprising building the database.
18. (Unchanged) The method of claim 17 wherein building the database comprises  
extracting new information from the one or more identifying announcements; and  
storing the new information in the database.

19. (Unchanged) The method of claim 17 wherein building the database comprises retrieving new information from a database external to the announcing member; and storing the new information in the database.

20. (Amended) A system for identifying members of an ad hoc network, the system comprising

communicators, associated with one or more source members and a display member, for communicating announcements regarding the source members between the source members and the display member;

a database comprising information regarding the source members;

a processor configured to access the database using the announcements to produce accessed information; and

an output associated with the display member for outputting the accessed information.

21. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the processor is configured to access the database for only those source members that are proximate to the display member.

22. (Amended) The system of claim 21 wherein  
an announcement passes through zero or more communicators as it travels from the  
source members to the display member; and  
the processor is configured to determine the proximity of a source member to the display  
member based on the number of communicators the announcement passed through between the  
source member and the display member.

23. (Unchanged) The system of claim 21 further comprising  
one or more signals for carrying the announcements between the source members and the  
display member;  
a signal strength measurer associated with the display member, the signal strength  
measurer producing a signal strength for each signal received from a source member; and  
wherein  
the processor is configured to determine the proximity of the source members to the  
display member using the respective signal strengths.

24. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the output displays the accessed  
information for the source members in the order that the announcements were received from the  
respective source members.

25. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein  
the accessed information for each source member has an associated urgency, the urgency  
having an order; and  
the output displays the accessed information for the source members in the order of  
urgency.
26. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the processor is associated with the display  
member.
27. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the database is associated with the display  
member.